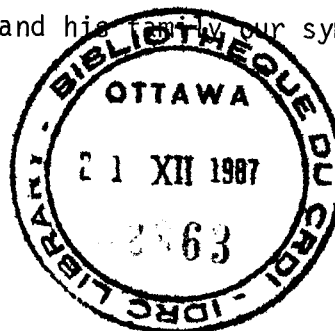


INTRODUCTORY REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH CENTRE

1st March 1971

1. On behalf of the staff of the Centre it gives me great pleasure to welcome you to this the second meeting of our Board. The staff of the Centre joins me in hoping that there will be time during your stay with us for each of you to visit personally with some of our Officers and employees. I wish to assure each member of the Board that the senior management joins me in inviting any detailed enquiry into the administration of programme operations carried out by our staff. We are proud of our employees and I think you will find that we have an extraordinarily competent group handling Centre affairs.
2. My remarks today will be a very brief review of Centre affairs. It is only one month since the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Board. The last paragraph of my Statement to the Committee covers the major activities of the Centre during the period between the end of October, 1970 and the end of January, 1971.
3. It is with regret that I inform you of the death of Dr. Lewis S. Anderson on February 17th. Dr. Anderson joined the Centre as a consultant in family planning on February 1st. During his very brief period with us, he gave of his energy and talent and experience a measure that made his death a significant loss to our work. On behalf of this Board I will extend to Mrs. Anderson and his family our sympathy and condolences on their bereavement.



4. A letter of notification was issued on February 10th to the University of Western Ontario informing them of the grant approved by the Executive Committee to permit the University's Department of Sociology to undertake a study on changing fertility rates in the Barbados. The grant to the University was for \$69,790, of which \$12,000 is being retained by the Centre to finance additional training for Barbadian scholars and a series of seminars to be given throughout the Caribbean by those involved in the study after its completion. The approved grant does not include a stipend for the investigators from the University of Western Ontario. The decision not to include a stipend was made after consultation with the Canada Council and the National Research Council. The practice of these Councils is not to include stipends to university faculty research workers who are conducting research under the terms of a grant while still enjoying their normal emoluments. This procedure will be the general practice on future Centre grants. Because the request for support of the Barbadian project was made at the initiative of the Department of Sociology at the University of Western Ontario, the approved grant did not include any payment of overhead to the University to cover its costs of administering the grant proceeds. This also will be a general practice of the Centre for grants made in response to unsolicited applications for assistance unless the size of the grant or the complexities of its administration demand special considerations.

5. I have offered the services of the Centre to act as the executing agent under a contract with the Canadian International Development Agency to manage a five-year research programme for triticales improvement,

and for research to enhance the productivity and nutritive quality of cassava both as a source of human sustenance and as a feed for swine. As approved by CIDA, the Centre would be responsible for administering \$3.25 million for work on triticale to be undertaken primarily at the Centro Internacional de Mejoramiento de Maiz y Trigo (CIMMYT) in Mexico in cooperation with selected Canadian institutions. In a similar manner, CIDA has approved an allocation of \$3.25 million for work on cassava and swine improvement to be done under our management at the Centro Internacional de Agricultura Tropical (CIAT) at Cali, Colombia, in cooperation with selected Canadian research centres. Detailed negotiations are now under way on the arrangements for the Centre's role in administering these two projects. If the contractual negotiation with CIDA is concluded satisfactorily (and I have every reason to expect that it will be), I have instructed our Programme Director for Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Sciences to prepare matching Centre projects in these two research areas that would strengthen and reinforce the CIDA contributions by assuring that the work done with Agency assistance has a wider impact among international scientists and research workers. I have told CIDA that the small direct costs of the in-house administration of these two projects will be borne by the Centre budget.

6. Early and very preliminary discussions are being held with CIDA by our Director for Population and Health Sciences on the possibility of the Centre acting as an executing agent for potential CIDA support to international activities in family planning and fertility regulation research. Similar preliminary conversations have been held between CIDA and our Director for Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Sciences on possible Centre management

of an Agency project for grain storage in East Africa. It is impossible to indicate at the present time the likely outcome of these conversations, or the timing of prepared contacts should they mature. Present indications are that each would involve in the neighbourhood of \$1.0 million.

7. In early February I authorized our Programme Director for Social Sciences and Human Resources to give help and make whatever expenditures are necessary to prepare for, and conduct a small workshop to discuss the major issues confronting applied social science research as it seeks to facilitate and ameliorate the processes of development. Invitees to the workshop will be senior social science scholars from various developing and developed countries. The workshop is planned for Ottawa in early May. It is hoped that Lady Barbara Ward Jackson will consent to chair the gathering.

8. I have authorized the Director for Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Sciences to proceed with the Agricultural Faculty at Laval University to explore an association between that University and the Institut de recherches agronomiques tropicales in Paris which will facilitate the participation of Canadian scientists in the programmes of agricultural research conducted by IRAT in the French-speaking countries of sub-saharan West Africa, and which will permit an expansion in the facilities and opportunities offered by Laval for the training of young African agricultural scientists.

9. During the past month I have had conversations with the Dean of Forestry and members of his Department at the University of British

Columbia, with the University's Department of Agriculture, with the Director and senior research staff member of the British Columbia Research Council and with the Director of the Forest Products Laboratory at Vancouver of the Canada Department of Fisheries and Forestry, about the feasibility of placing a Centre appointed Associate Programme Director at the University from where he would develop and supervise our research activities in forestry science. The conversations were most fruitful and I was assured that our Programme Officer and his small supporting staff would be most welcome. I have asked our Programme Director for Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Sciences to make an early appointment of a suitable Associate Director for Forestry and to discuss further with the University and our Director of Administration, the details of establishing a Centre office in Vancouver. I wish to acknowledge with grateful thanks the assistance I received on this matter from Mr. John Bene.

10. I anticipate that within the next few months conversations similar to those held at the University of British Columbia will take place with fishery scientists at Bedford, Nova Scotia, preparatory to the appointment of an Associate Programme Director for Fisheries; and with the University of Montreal for locating our Associate Programme Director for Demographic Studies on that campus.

11. After a careful assessment of the intricacies involved and the need for specialized experience and knowledge, the management of the Centre has concluded that research programmes to be undertaken in French-speaking developing countries should be formulated by a Programme Director who knows well the research and training capacities of French-speaking institutions in Canada, who can devote time to sorting through the web of

relationships tying research and development activities in former French colonial territories to research and assistance agencies in metropolitan France, and who has or can acquire a comprehensive knowledge of the research and educational institutions and needs in those developing countries where French is the language of instruction and administration. This knowledge is prerequisite to mobilizing and applying effectively the talents and experience of scientists in Canada, and particularly in the Province of Quebec, and elsewhere to further Centre purposes. Therefore, it is the opinion of our management that a special Director who would work with the subject area Programme Directors at Centre headquarters to lead in the identification, preparation and supervision of all Centre programmes relating to French-speaking developing regions should be appointed and located, preferably, in Quebec City. Efforts are now under way to identify a suitable candidate for this position.

12. I continue to seek two suitable candidates for the positions of Centre Vice-President. In this I am being assisted by the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman and I hope appointments to these positions can be made shortly. To facilitate the early appointment of two Vice-Presidents, it is desirable that the Board empower me, with the approval of the Executive Committee, to announce any appointments pending subsequent approval of each appointment by the Board. It is my intention to ask the Executive Committee to act on these appointments as soon as suitable candidates have been identified.

13. As announced to the Executive Committee, on behalf of the Centre I entered into short-term contracts with:

- (i) Woods, Gordon and Company to undertake a study and provide advice on financial procedures and practices for use in our operations; and
- (ii) Hopkins, Hedlin Limited to provide assistance in the preparation of publicity materials, administration manuals, and to give counsel on the establishment of a Centre public information service.

Mr. Garth Hopkins will make an interim report to the Board at this meeting on the suggestions his firm has for the establishment of a Centre public information service. The report from Woods, Gordon and Company is not yet complete but the Centre management has had the benefit of their help on several administrative matters.

14. At the conclusion of this statement I will recommend the appointment of Mr. John E. Woolston as Programme Director for Information Sciences. Mr. Woolston's bio-data has been circulated to each Governor. He began his duties with the Centre on January 1, 1971, and has been functioning for us as an Acting Director since that time.

15. During the past month Centre Officers have made several trips that included visits to countries in Europe, Africa, Latin America and Asia.

16. I have asked the Treasurer to circulate a financial statement covering Centre activities from 14th May 1970 to 28th February 1971.